Directors Statement to our Supporters
Updated July 2016

Milford Care Centre’s Fundraising Activities

Governance Arrangements
Milford Care Centre (MCC) is a Company limited by Guarantee No. 291969 and as such is fully compliant with the legal requirements as determined by the Companies Registration Office. It is also a registered Charity with the Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA No. 20038113 and Charity Exemption No. 12761) and conforms fully to the requirements of the Charities Act. The organisation operates within strict governance structures with the Board fulfilling the role of Trustees for the fundraising activities of Milford Hospice. In this capacity, the Board is charged with responsibility for ensuring that voluntary donated funds received are used for the intended purposes only and it can assure their supporters that all funds raised in support of Milford Hospice’s services are used solely for those purposes.

Funding position and fundraising requirements
Milford Care Centre is a voluntary, not for profit organisation governed by an independent Board of Directors. There are 3 specific operating entities within Milford Care Centre, which provide a range of both publicly supported and privately funded healthcare services as follows:

(a) Milford Hospice and Milford Day Care Centre
Hospice In-Patient & Hospice-at-Home Community Services and Day Care Services, which are publicly supported services, cover both specialist palliative care and older persons care. The operating costs of these designated services, both pay and non-pay, are funded by a number of sources as follows:-

- Circa 78% by Health Service Executive (HSE), through a Section 39 Agency Service Level Agreement, which prescribes agreed service levels in the areas of both specialist palliative care and day care.
- A further c. 14.5% is derived from a combination of private health insurance income, education, catering & other income.
- The balance of c. 7.5% of all operating costs, including the pay and non-pay costs for all staff engaged in these publicly supported services, are met from the proceeds of fundraising activities. For 2016 the operating fundraising requirement equates to €1.5 million.

Milford Hospice is the sole designated specialist palliative care service provider for the entire midwest region, delivering services from bases in Limerick City, Ennis, Nenagh, Thurles and Newcastlewest.

(b) Milford Nursing Home is privately funded and is registered with HIQA. This facility is run on a not-for-profit basis and its operating costs are met primarily from residents’ fee income. There is no direct fundraising undertaken for the Nursing Home.

In all there is a headcount in excess of 350 staff engaged in MCC’s work with an annual turnover of approximately €19m. MCC is not a public sector organisation, nor are its employees deemed to be public servants.
Directors & Financial Reporting
The Directors of Milford Care Centre provide their services on a voluntary basis and do not receive any remuneration or expenses in respect of this involvement with the organisation.

Fundraising is a vital source of finance for Milford, without which its ability to function would be seriously impaired. In light of recent disclosures of alleged abuses in the charity sector, the Directors would like to reassure Milford's supporters that best practices and controls are in place in respect of all fundraising activities under its remit.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring annual accounts are prepared and audited by independent external auditors. The audit covers all activities including fundraising and related disbursements. The Company's Auditors, PriceWaterhouseCoopers have issued an unqualified opinion for Milford Care Centre in respect of the financial statements for year ended 31st December 2015 which were prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and which were approved by the Board of Directors on 27th May 2016. They will be filed with the Companies Registration Office by end September 2016 in line with Company Law requirements and this information will also be accessed by the Charities Regulatory Authority and HSE.

In addition, Milford Care Centre produces an annual report on all of its activities, which includes a detailed financial report. This report can also be accessed on the MCC website.

The Board of Directors would like to acknowledge and thank all of its funders, including the general public and HSE, for their ongoing support and to re-assure you that our commitment to continue delivering high quality patient centred care remains absolute.

Pat Gilmartin
Board Chairperson

July 2016